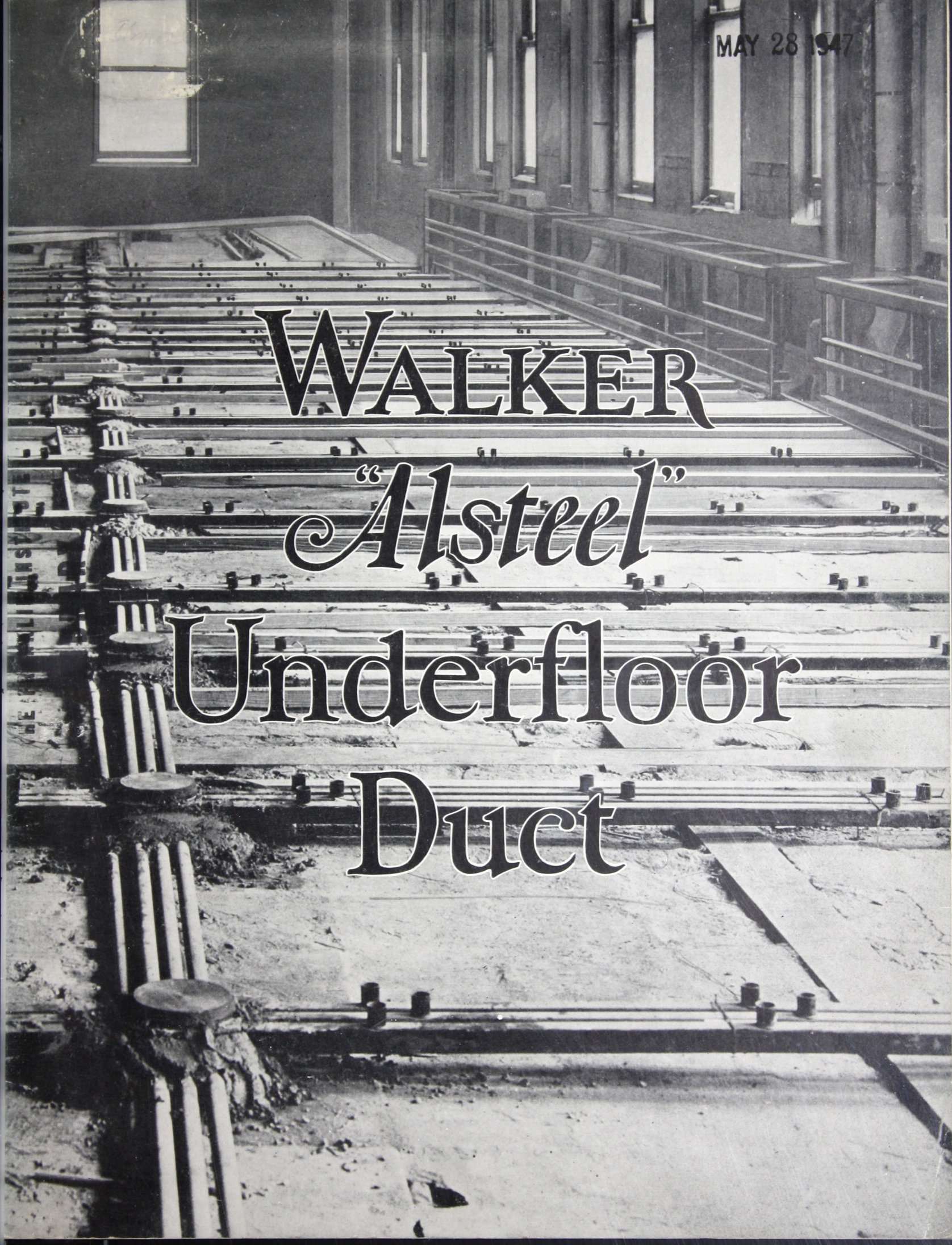
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WALKER "Alsteel" Underfloor Duct

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WALKER BROTHERS

ROUGHING-IN MATERIALS
FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
OF MODERN BUILDINGS

WALKER ALSTEEL
UNDERFLOOR DUCT

WALKER ALSTEEL
RIGID CONDUIT

CONCRETE BOXES OUTLET BOXES
COVERS

WALKER BROTHERS

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CLEVELAND: Frank Reske, Arcade Bldg.
DENVER: The Wesco Co., 7th & Lawrence Sts.
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LOS ANGELES: ~~Alsteel Products Co., 2118 East 9th St.~~
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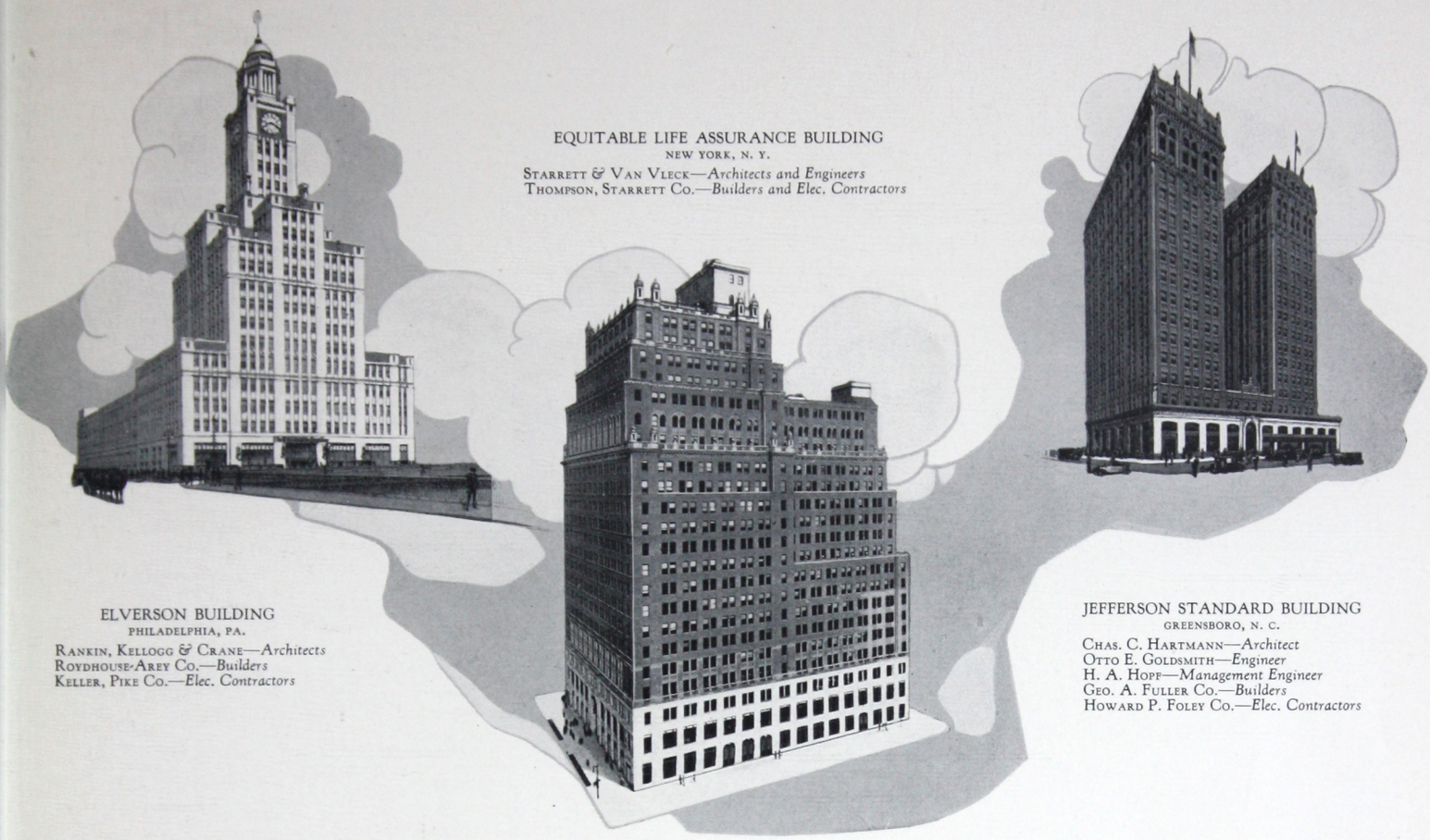
CANADA: Northern Electric Co., Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver
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Walker Alsteel Underfloor Duct

FIVE YEARS' observation of its application to the requirements of the modern office building has justified the conviction on which was based the original development of the Walker "Alsteel" Underfloor Duct System. Five years ago it appeared that the use of and demand for electrical service of many kinds was increasing at a rate that would soon make inadequate the facilities for distribution then provided.

It is now quite evident that this condition has developed more rapidly and to an even greater extent than was anticipated and that a flexible means of underfloor distribution, then to some extent a provision for the future, is to-day a present necessity in a modern building.

The telephone has in the past been the major problem, and it is due to the ingenuity of the telephone companies that it has not been more troublesome than it has, but along with this problem there has developed another which is even more exacting, due to the element of hazard lacking in the telephone problem. This is the greatly increased demand for lighting voltage service incident to the tremendous increase over the last ten years in the use of a multitude of different business machines—electrically operated. It is of course impossible to meet such demands by resorting to the many makeshifts which have been so often forced on the telephone companies.

It was in recognition of these demands that the Walker "Alsteel" Underfloor System was developed. In its present improved form, embodying the economy and convenience of patented pre-set outlet extensions, it will meet all requirements of modern commercial buildings in capacity, flexibility and convenience. If used with due consideration of



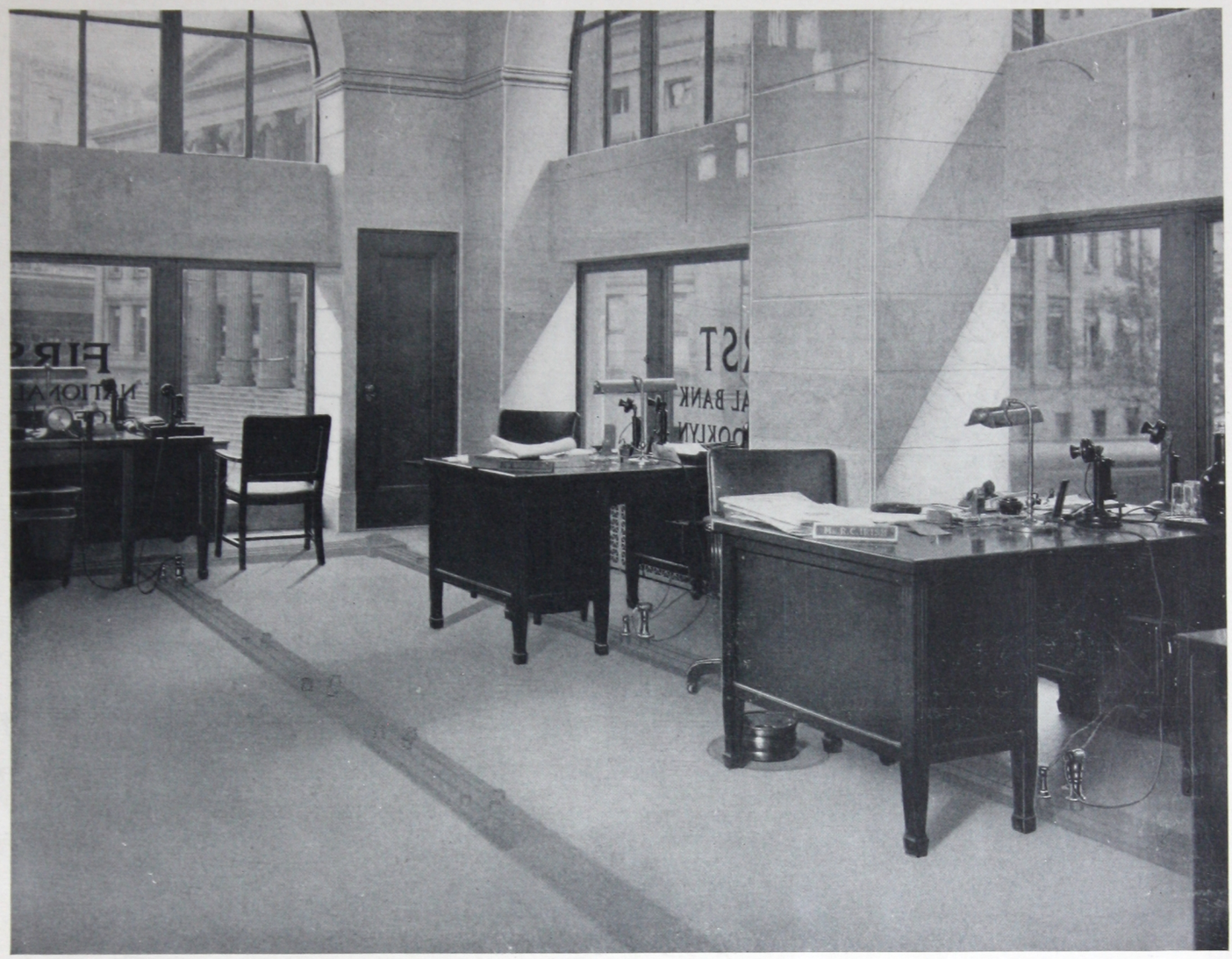
WALKER UNDERFLOOR DUCT SYSTEM INSTALLED ON SLAB BEFORE LAYING OF FINISHED FLOOR

the character and demands of the specific problem, it will prove a real economy.

The Walker System in general consists of a network of rectangular steel ducts, single or multiple, embedded in the floor. Each length of duct is equipped with outlet extensions applied in the course of manufacture, at minimum cost, at specified regular uniform intervals. The advantage of underfloor ducts in office buildings is obvious. The practical advantage, economy and convenience of these pre-set, regularly spaced inserts should be just as apparent. Confusion, dirt and noise are practically eliminated in making connections after completion of the building and the cost of making these connections reduced by as much as 80% or even more.

The Walker System enables the architect or engineer to lay out the electrical system for the entire building to meet any reasonable requirements and to lay it out in advance, at one time, without waiting for a multitude of partition and furniture plans. It also enables him to provide in advance a system flexible enough to meet all future requirements, incident to changes of occupancy or of furniture arrangement, at no additional cost. It eliminates the all too frequent necessity of preparing a series of electrical plans and addenda to meet a series of ideas on office arrangement. It gives him assurance that when the occupants of the building arrive at their final arrangement they will have service where they want it.

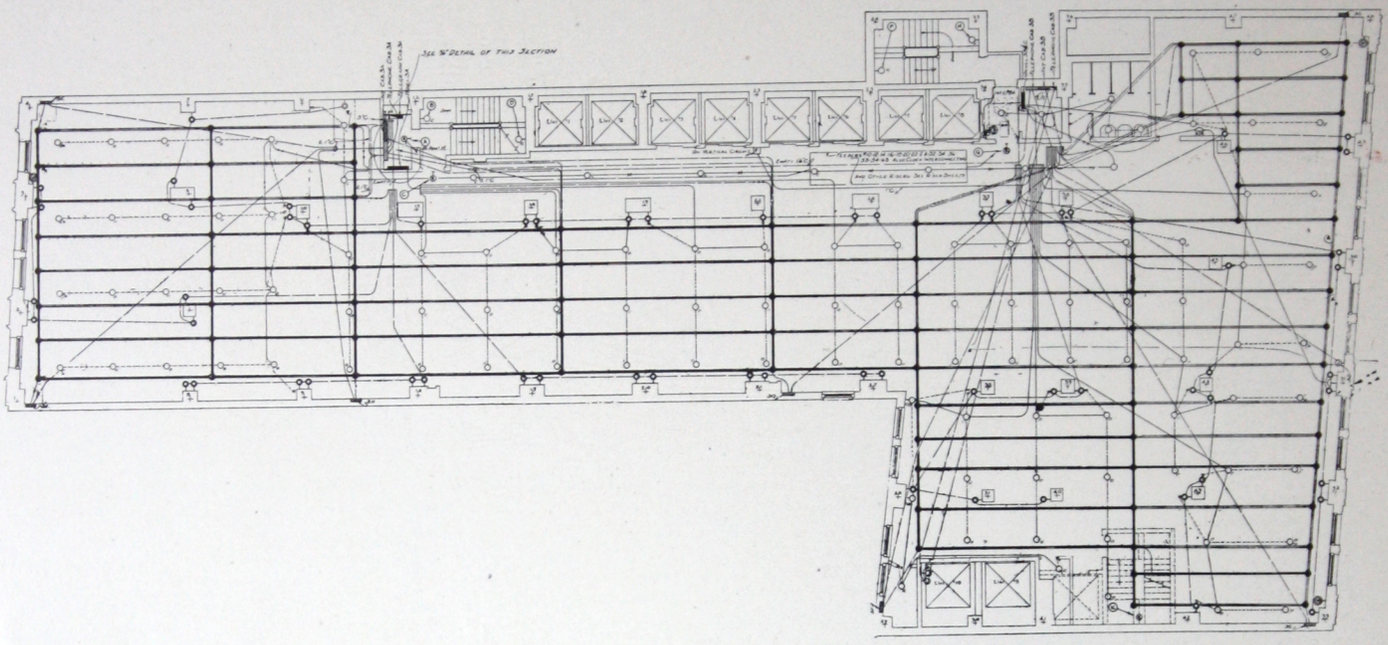
For the owner or manager of a building it provides for all changes or rearrangement for the life of

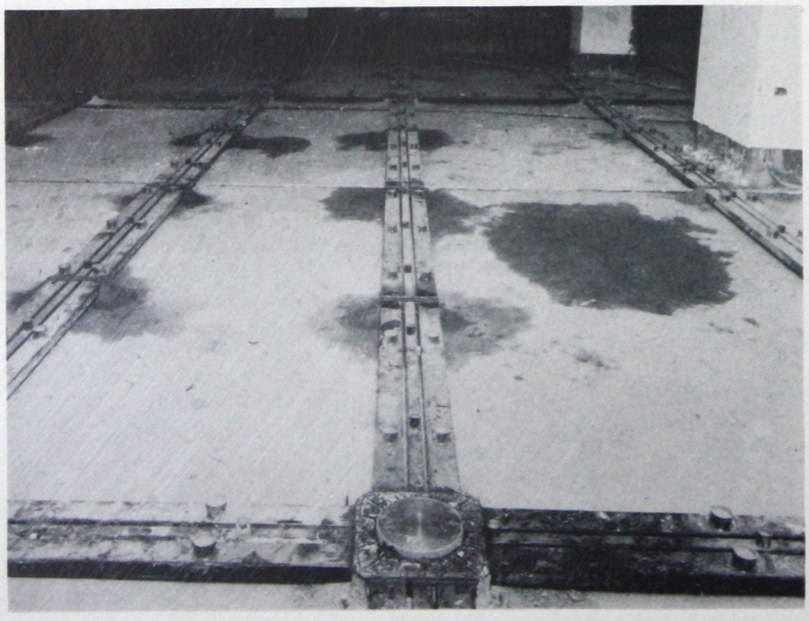


PHANTOM VIEW OF A WALKER UNDERFLOOR DUCT SYSTEM IN USE

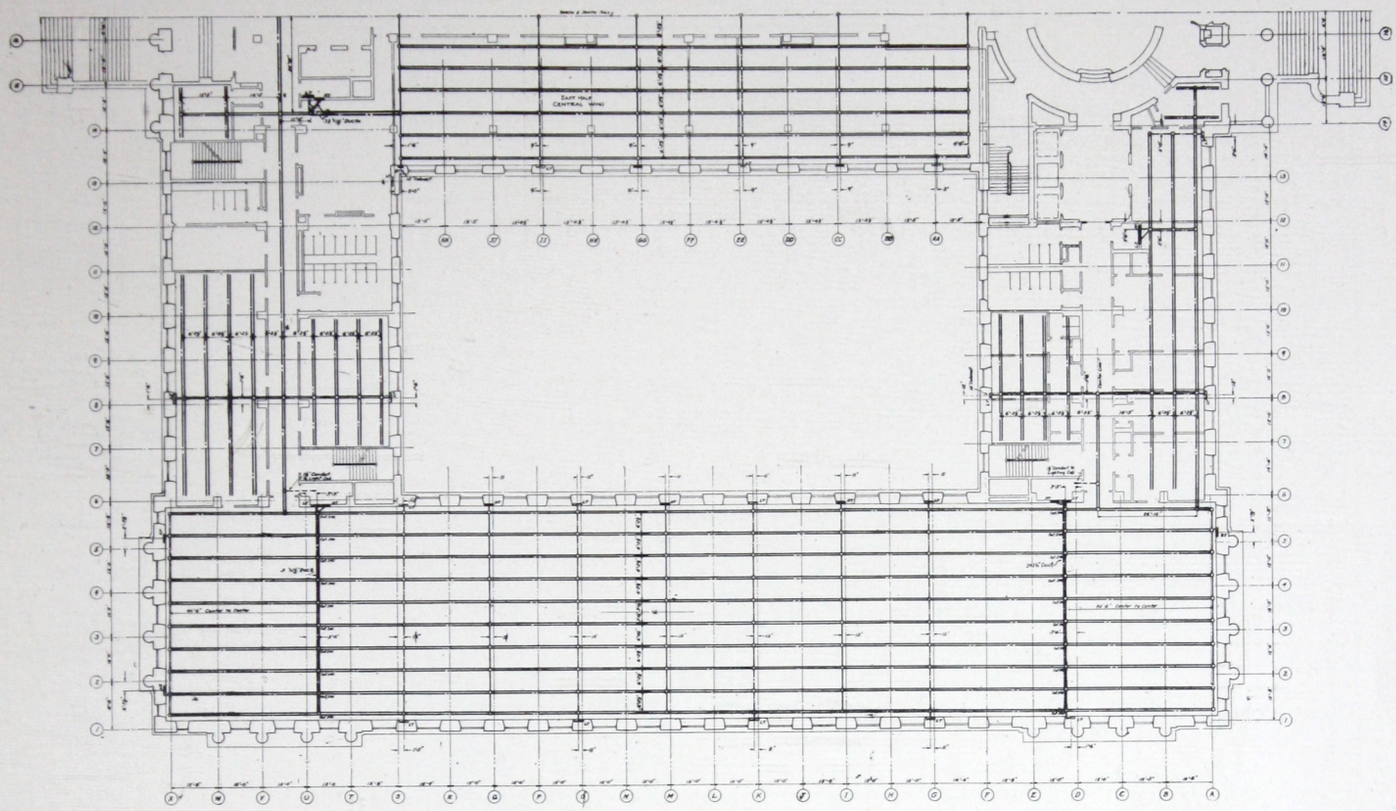
the building with no future cost beyond that of inserting outlet fittings and pulling wires. It enables him to offer to tenants space that can be used as they want it with only negligible expense for wiring changes.

The Walker System has been developed to provide a maximum of flexibility in planning. As shown in the following pages equipment is available for a wide variety of plans to meet different conditions, and service requirements. We have yet to find a condition in a modern office building or a service requirement which cannot be met at reasonable cost by a Walker Underfloor System—usually with standard equipment, occasionally with special materials. Flexibility in use is inherent in the principle of underfloor distribution and is made fully available by the patented pre-set insert feature, which provides in effect continuous availability.

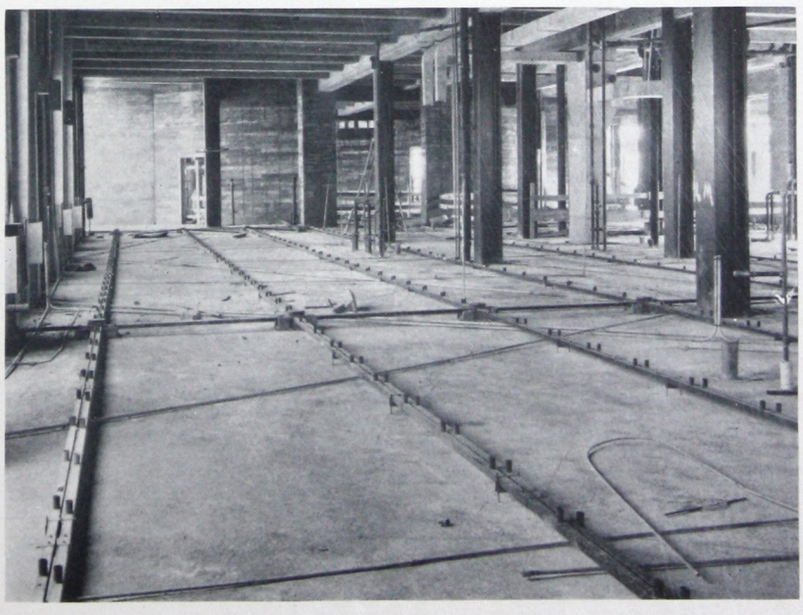


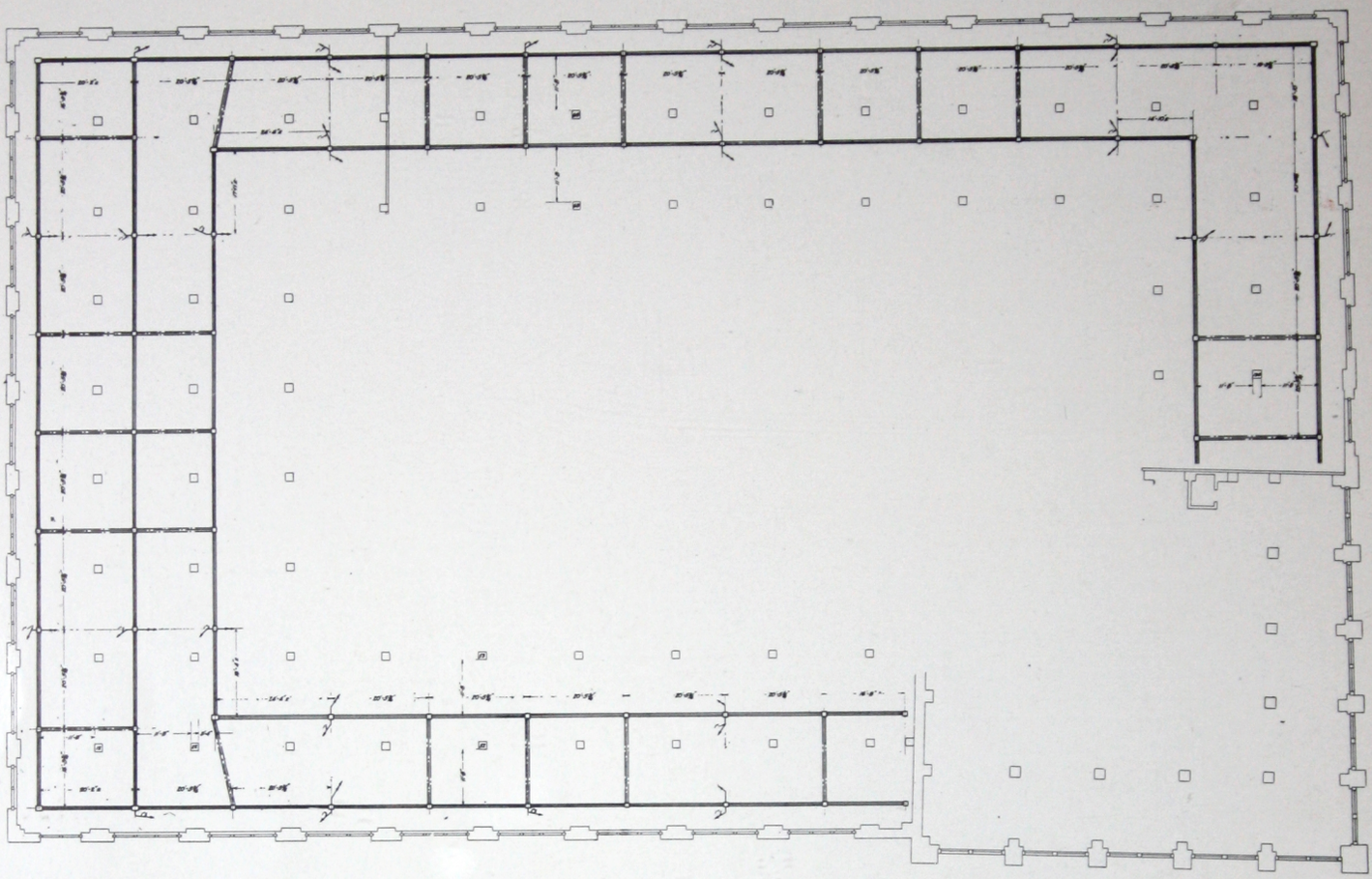


A plan typical of Walker Underfloor distribution systems in large buildings of the highest class. This system gives thorough coverage of usable floor space with three ducts, providing for telephone, light, and miscellaneous low-tension wires. The three separate systems are fed and extended through a single set of three-duct boxes so designed and partitioned that there is no intercommunication between the three systems. The two low tension ducts are both of the large size, 3 1/8 x 1 1/4, assuring adequate facilities for telephone and internal communication systems to meet the demands of the most modern practice.



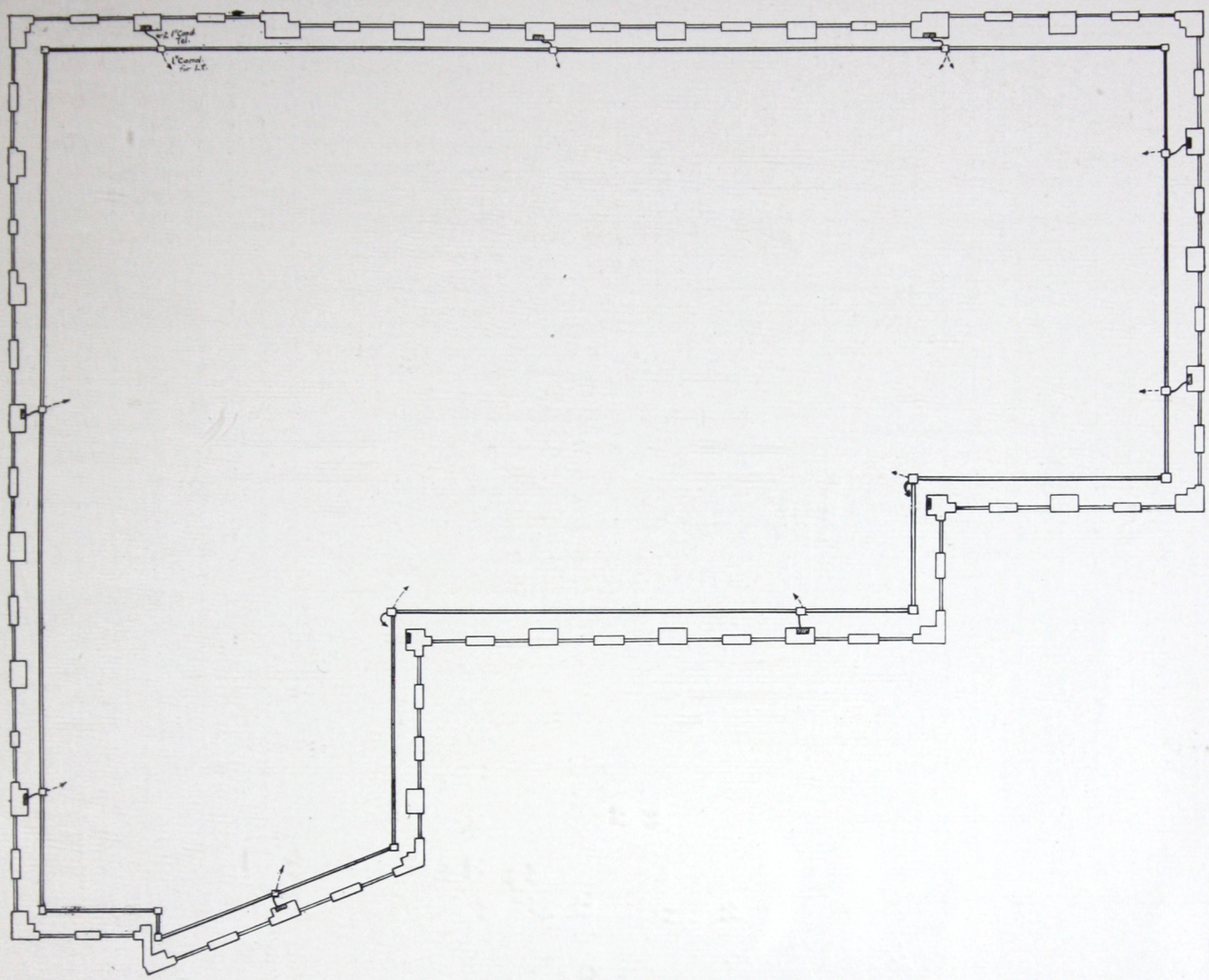
Another Walker Underfloor System in a building of the finest monumental type. All usable areas are adequately covered, making provision for any and all requirements for the life of the building. Double size ducts are used at important feeder points of the telephone and signal duct system. Each sub-panel is fed by a separate riser; cross-run feeds are alternately for light current and low tension. This differs from the preceding plan in that one duct is used for both telephone and miscellaneous low-tension wires.



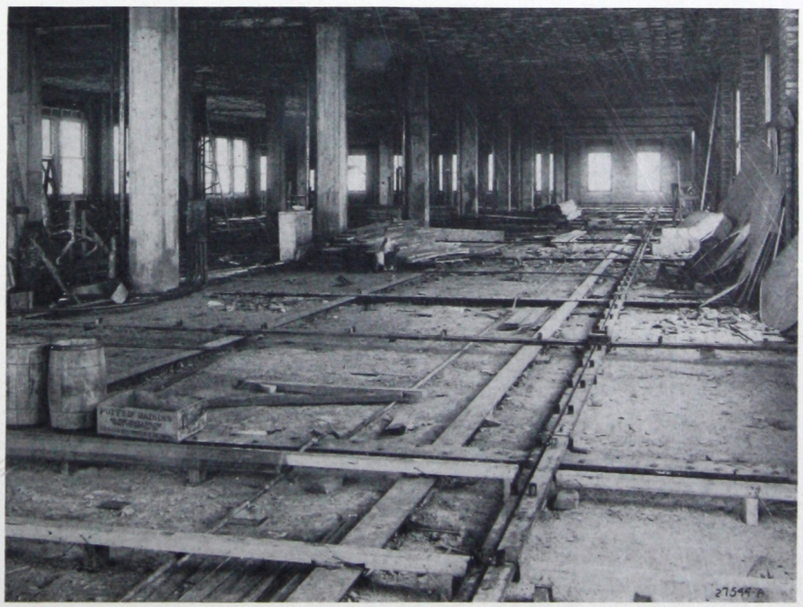


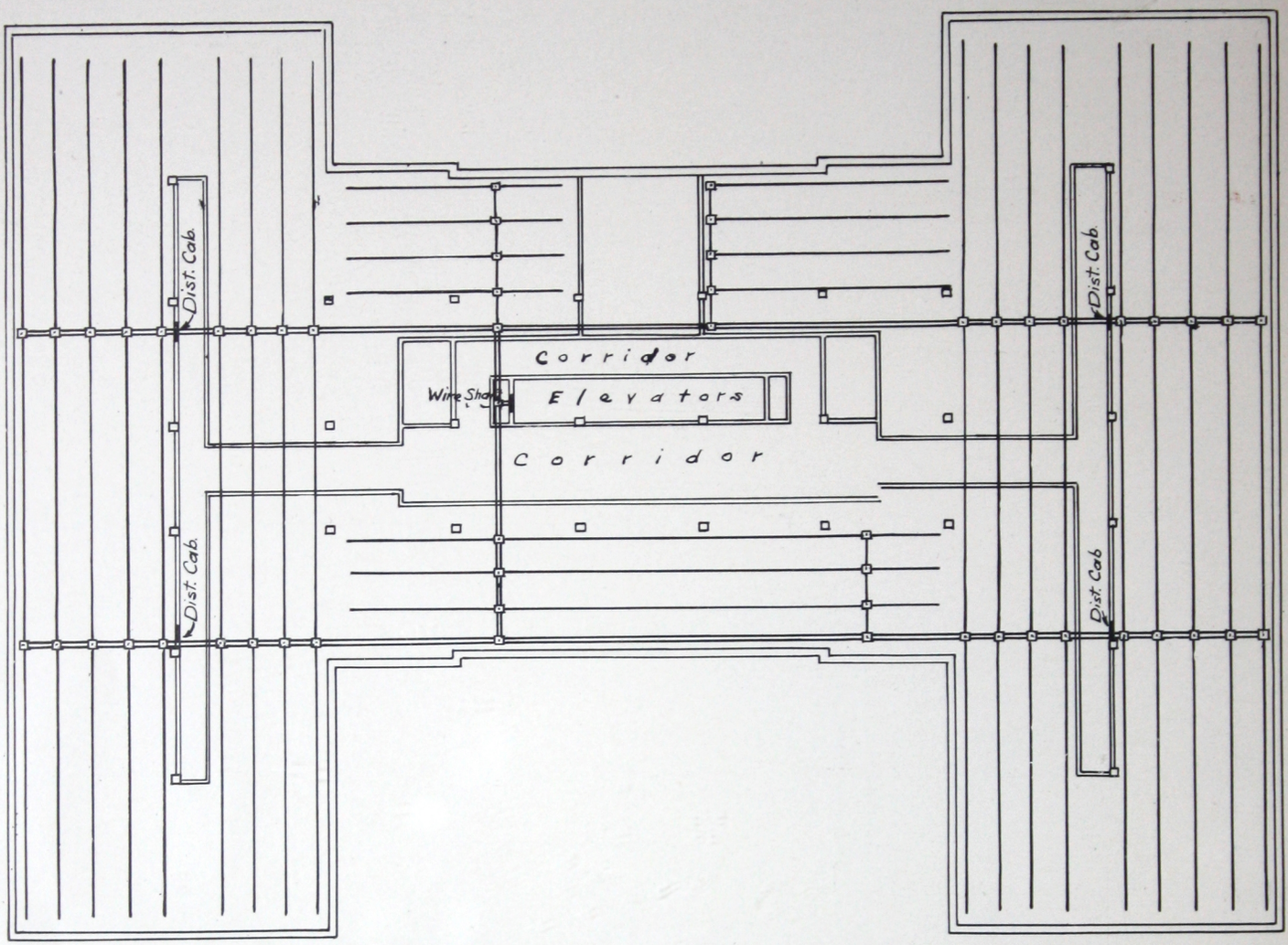


A system of somewhat less scope, but one which will undoubtedly serve its purpose—reasonably full provision for the area included in the two outer bays around the building. In this case again the third duct is used, separating telephone wires from those of various signal systems.



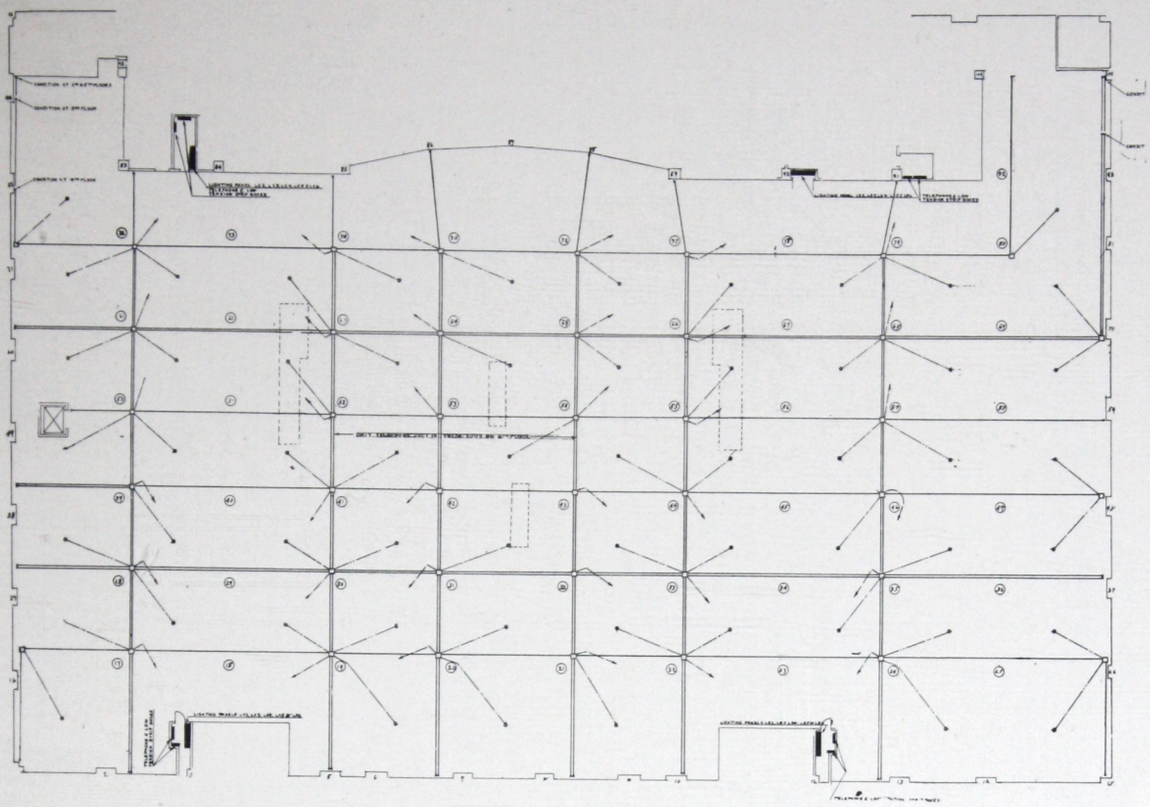
A good example of the use of underfloor duct for service around the outside walls of a building where demand, for telephone and signal service at least, is apt to be heaviest. This plan gives only a minimum of coverage but does give flexibility. A further point of interest is the use of double size duct for low-tension wires—an example of the adaptability of the system to varying service requirements.





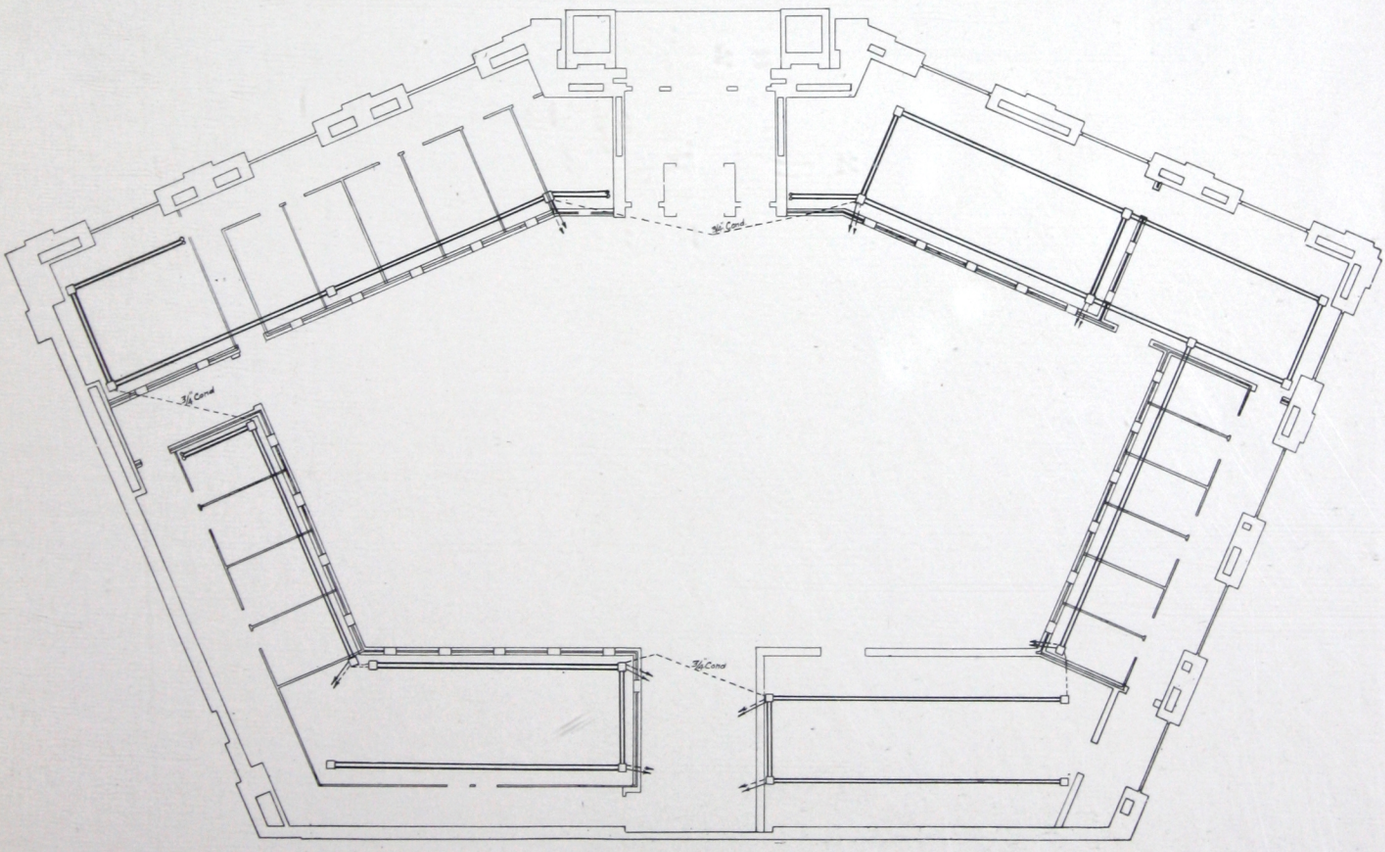


The most interesting feature of the above plan is the fact that it provides a thoroughly adequate system of underfloor distribution for telephone and signals without any round conduit feeders or home-runs. 3⅛″ x 1¼″ underfloor duct is used throughout and it will be noted that two of these large ducts are provided for all important feeder runs. The view at the right shows the underfloor duct laid on the wooden forms for a monolithic poured floor.

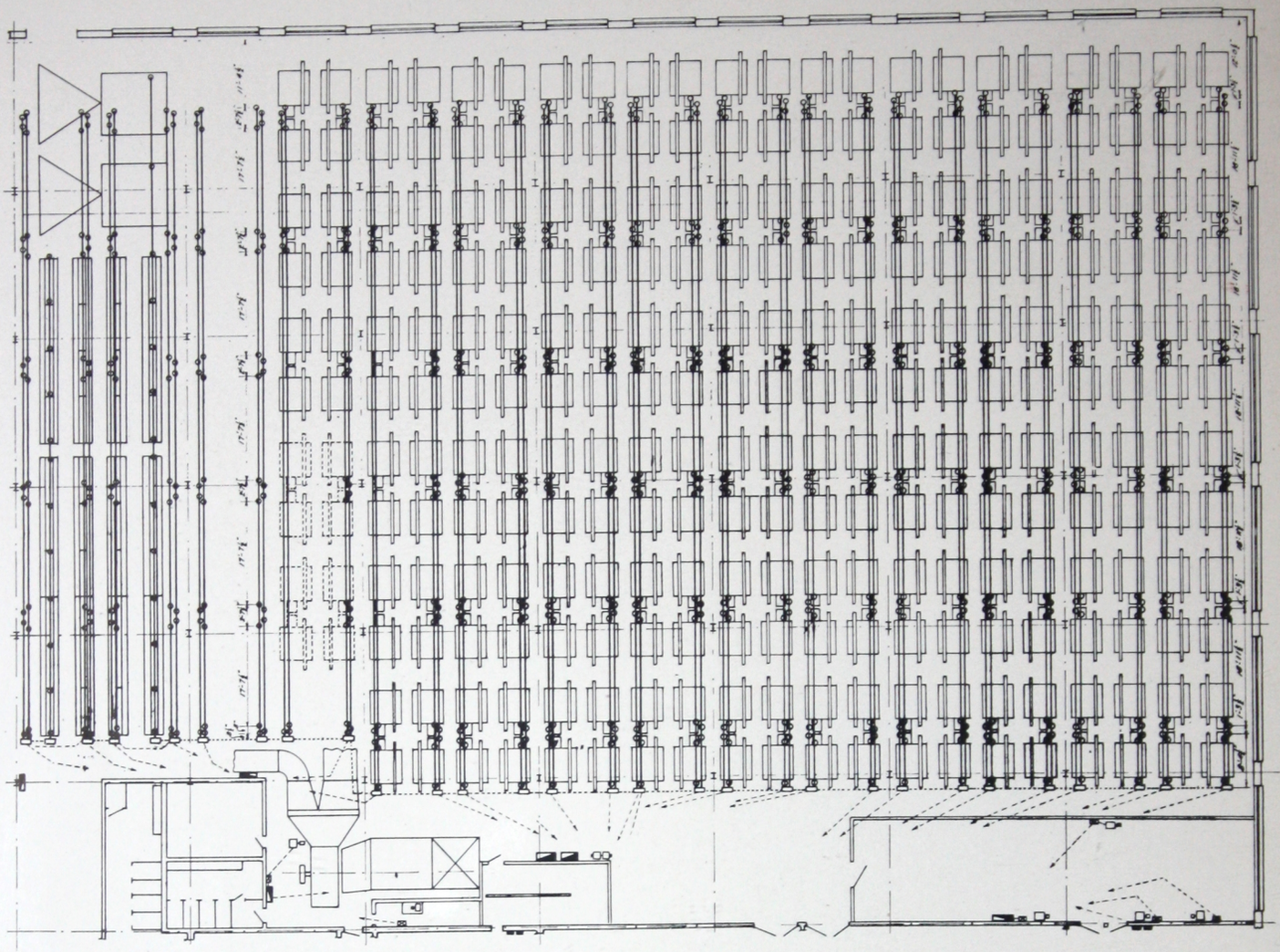


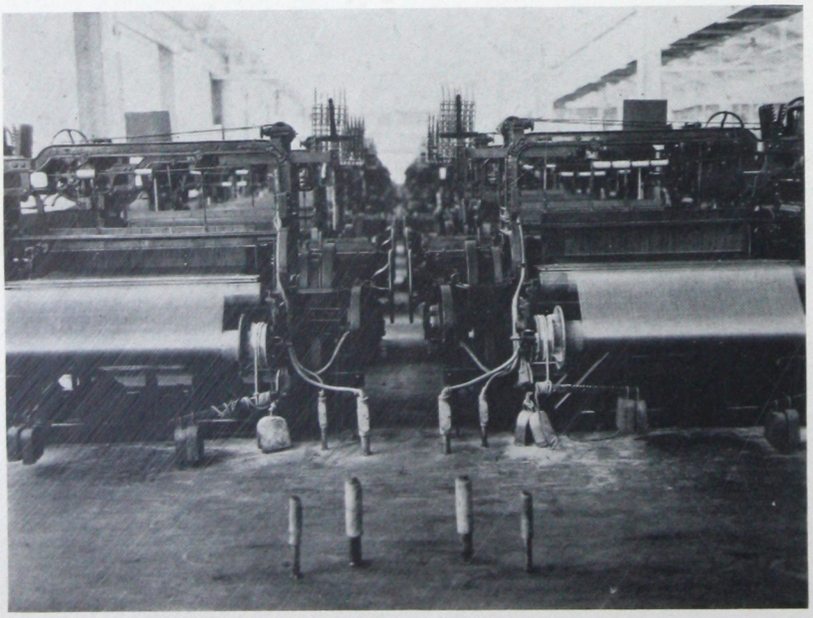
A TYPICAL DEPARTMENT STORE PLAN

SINGLE DUCTS FOR SHOW-CASE LIGHTING, DOUBLE FOR LIGHTING AND TELEPHONE



TYPICAL PLAN FOR A BANKING FLOOR





An example of the application of Walker Underfloor Duct to industrial small-power distribution. This plan shows a system feeding a battery of individual-drive looms and other textile machines. This plant was built with the thought that the arrangement of machines will ultimately differ materially from the original installation. The Underfloor Duct System will permit such changes, incident to expansion, at minimum cost.

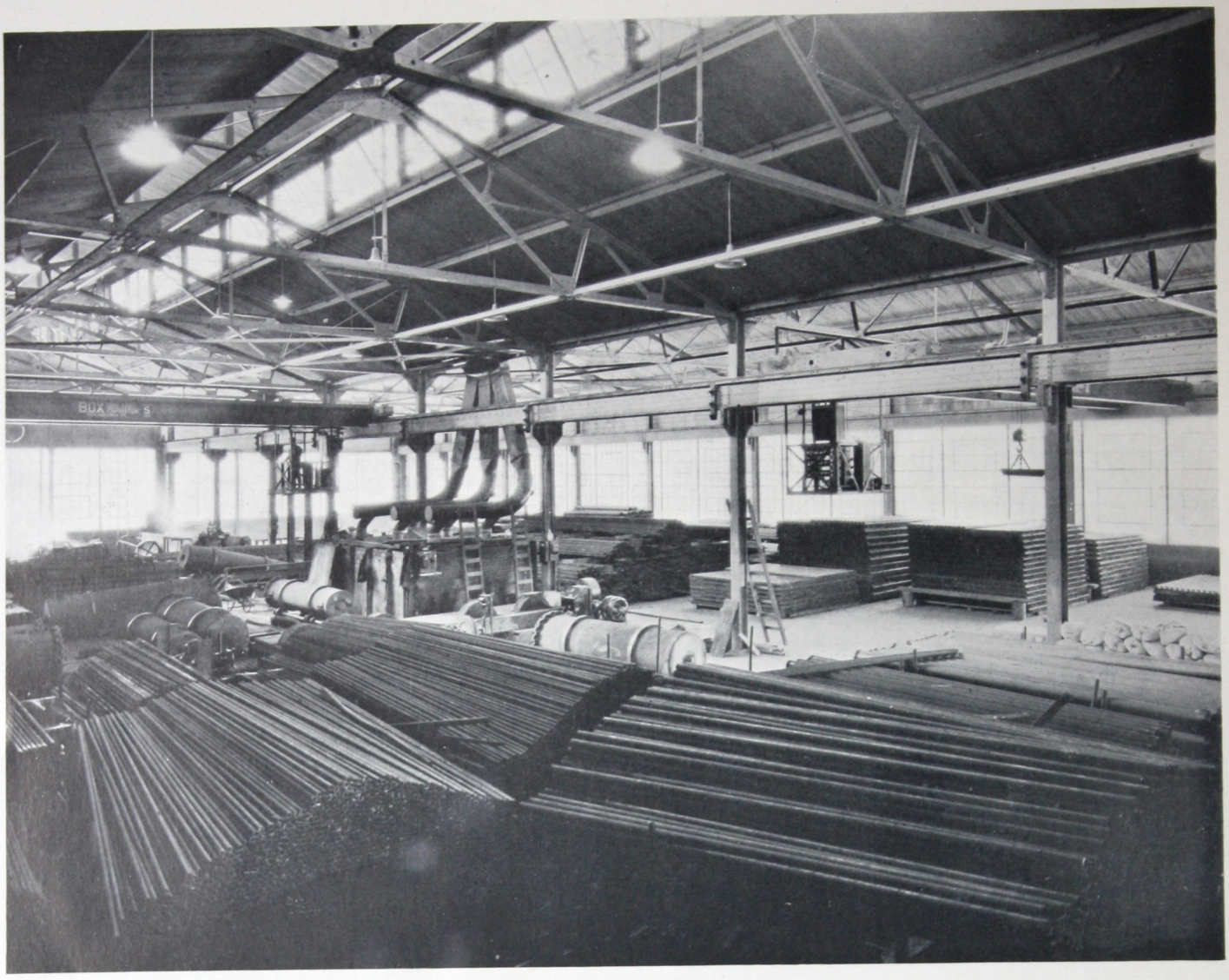
Notes on Layout of Systems of Underfloor Duct

THERE has been in the past a too prevalent opinion that distribution by means of an adequate underfloor duct system was far more costly than by other methods. The fallacy in this view lies in the fact that it has been based on comparisons with old standards, which have not only become inadequate for present needs, but are entirely inflexible. It is however desirable to adapt the character and scope of the system used to the reasonable requirements of a specific building.

Floor plans, conditions and service requirements are apt to vary so widely that but one general rule can be laid down to govern all jobs in the matter of layout. This is that the layout need not necessarily take care of all *possible* conditions but may provide only for all reasonable *probabilities*, leaving improbable possibilities to be taken care of if they materialize. For example, an 18-foot bay would seem to require for 100% coverage three runs of duct with 4 '6" spacing, but two runs, five feet from the wall and five feet from the columns, will usually be sufficient to meet actual requirements. The reason for this becomes apparent when we consider that a single row of desks would almost surely be placed near the wall, a second row in corresponding position near the columns and a third row, if needed, would have to be doubled with one of the other rows, the double row using a single run of duct. Similarly a 30-foot space would seem to require five runs of duct whereas three runs will cover the probable service demands.

Aside from this factor, layouts will generally come under one of four classifications, governed by policy and specific conditions. First is full general coverage of entire net usable floor area, as illustrated by typical plans on pages 6, 7 and 10. Second, full coverage of certain parts of floor area where demands for service will be greatest, as illustrated by plan on page 8 which covers the two outer bays; third, is a plan, illustrated on page 9, which is a further modification of the second type and merely replaces corridor moulding or other similar ducts with an underfloor duct around the outer wall where service demands will be concentrated. This plan is in general adequate only where space is definitely planned in small units, but is extremely flexible and economical for such areas. The fourth class includes all special plans such as those for stores or banking floors where the layout definitely follows the equipment plan. Such plans are typified on page 11 and are, of course, a matter of specific provision for specific needs.

Another important factor is the number and location of home-run or feeder conduits or ducts. In planning a round conduit system the rated capacity of a conduit may be utilized and in the case of a lighting current system the full capacity of each circuit available may be used. In the case of underfloor ducts, however, every outlet utilized should be a separate circuit as far as the nearest junction box. Therefore junction boxes and home-runs should be spaced, as a rule, not more than thirty or forty feet apart. If these home-runs feed more than two parallel runs of underfloor duct they should be somewhat more frequent. This is particularly true of a lighting current system as the code permits only ten No. 14 wires in any one run of underfloor duct between junction boxes. Hence lighting home-runs should not be expected, regardless of conductor capacity, to serve more than five possible outlets in each direction from each box served by that particular feeder. General practice, as shown in plans on preceding pages, has been to space junction boxes from twenty to forty feet apart and provide feeders of 1" or 1¼" pipe for each separate system (lighting, telephone, low tension) at each box or at every other box. If possible connections to low tension cabinets should be duct.



A CORNER OF SHERARDIZING FLOOR

CONDUIT

Allied to the Walker Underfloor Duct System, each being a natural complement of the other, is Walker "Alsteel" Rigid Conduit. The conduit plant is adequately equipped for the production of both sherardized and black enameled conduit. "Alsteel" Conduit is offered to architects and engineers as without superior in finish or in the "workability" so essential to economy in installation.



WALKER "ALSTEEL" CONDUIT—SHERARDIZED OR BLACK ENAMELED

Modern Buildings Equipped with

WALKER "ALSTEEL" UNDERFLOOR DUCT SYSTEM



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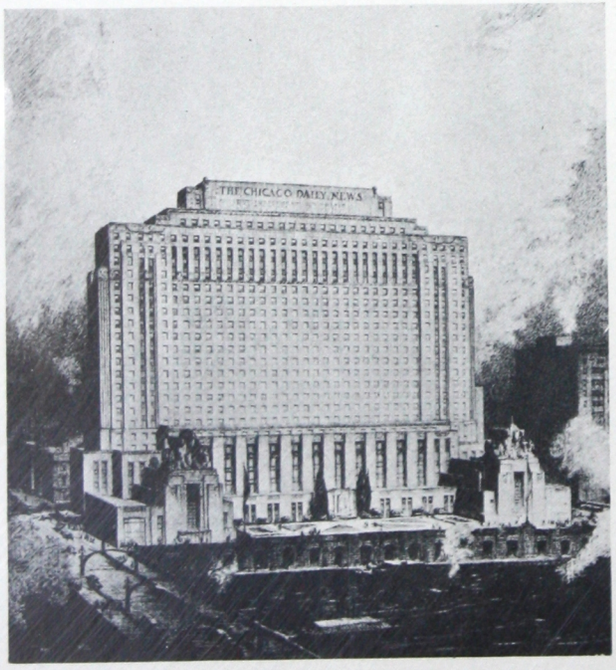
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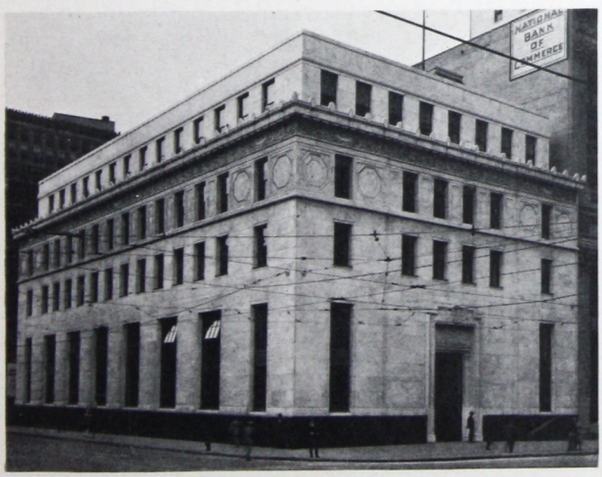
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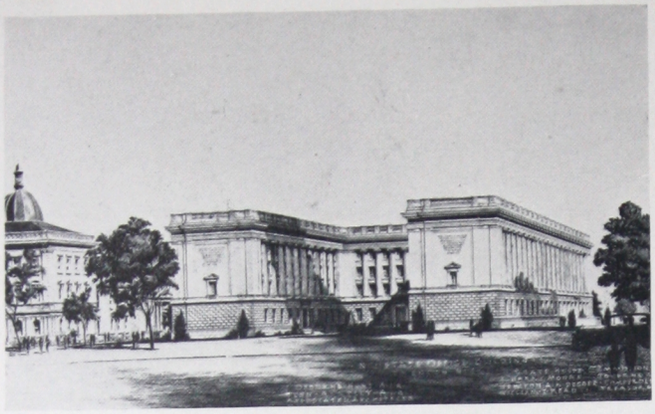
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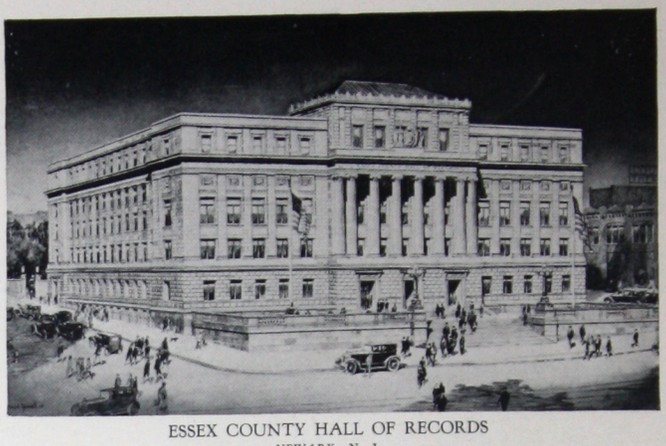


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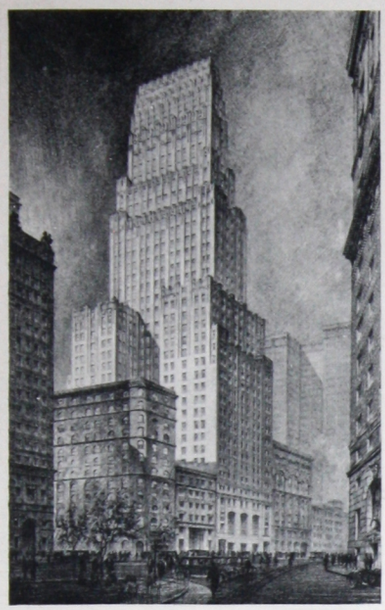
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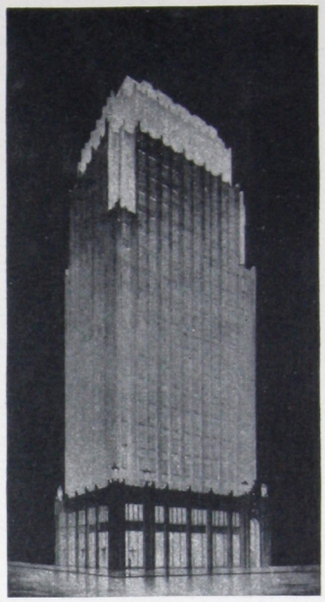


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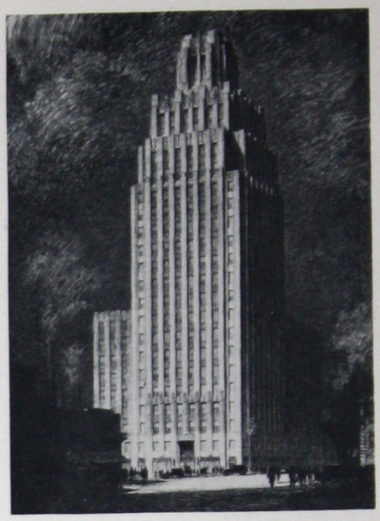
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HAROLD FIELD KELLOGG—*Architect*
TURNER CONSTRUCTION CO.—*Builders*
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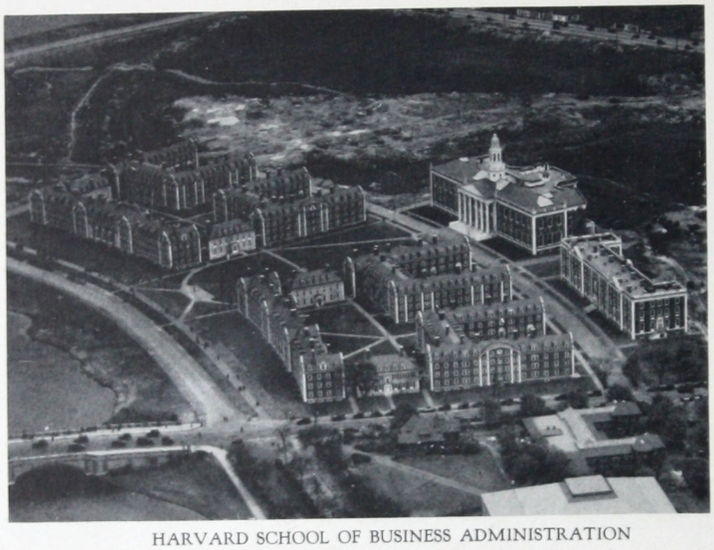
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PHILADELPHIA
RALPH B. BENCKER—*Architect*
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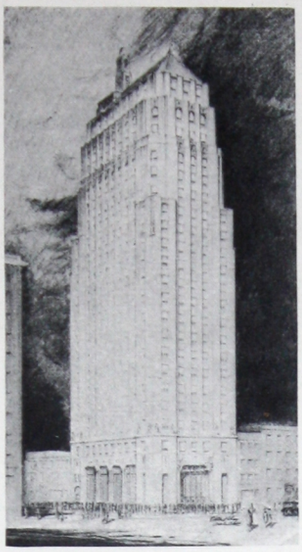
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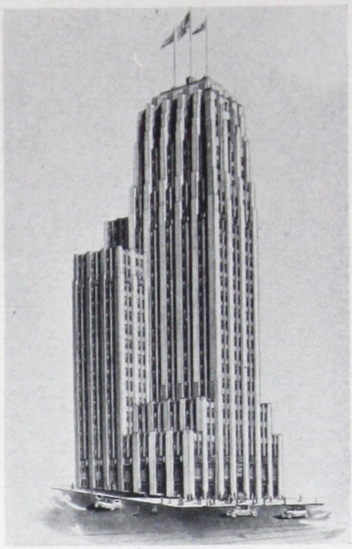
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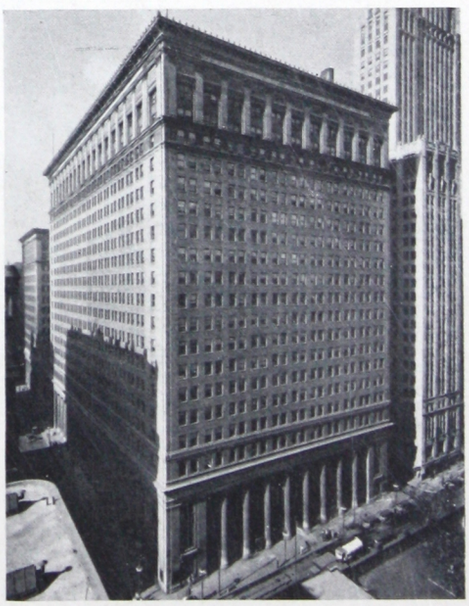
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A. H. ALBERTSON—*Architect*
PAUL RICHARDSON—*Associate*
JOSEPH W. WILSON—*Associate*
JOSIAH C. MOORE—*Engineer*
SOUND CONSTRUCTION & ENG. CO.—*Builders*
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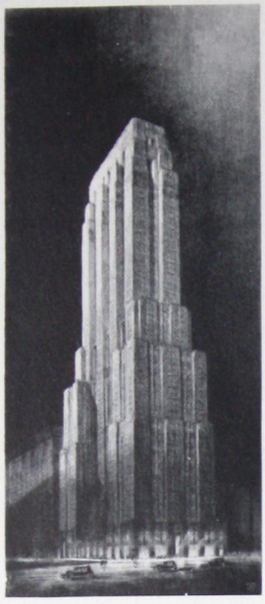
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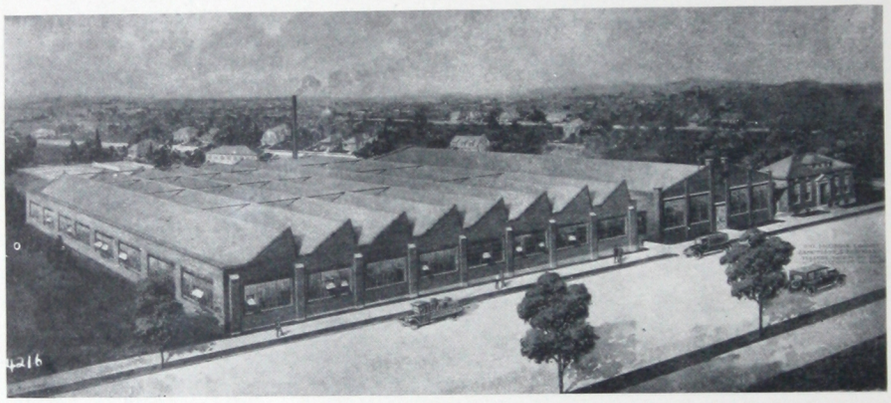
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CHICAGO
HOLABIRD & ROOT—*Architects*
LUNDOFF, BUCKNELL CO.—*Builders*
HATFIELD ELECTRIC CO.—*Elec. Contractors*



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JOHN M. MOORE & CO.—*Architects*
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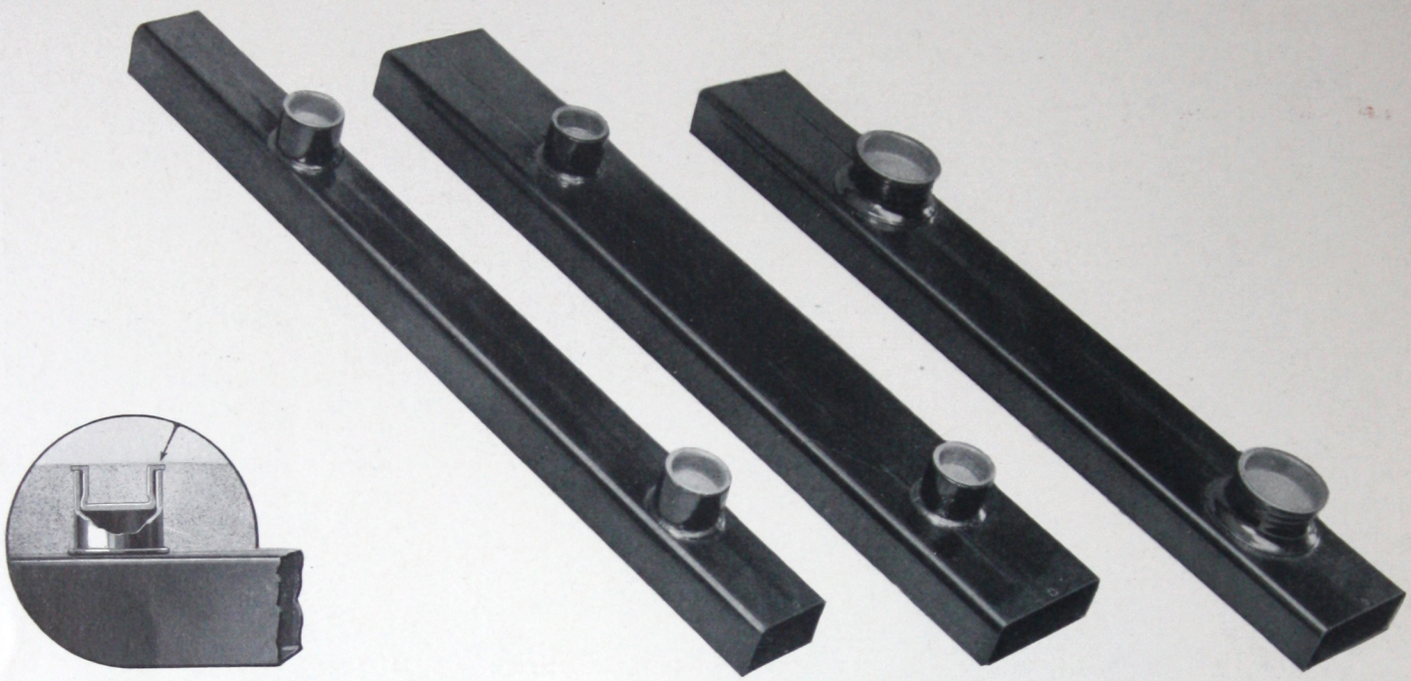
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RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
DWIGHT P. ROBINSON, INC.—*Architects and Builders*



JOINT CABLE STATION
HORTA, AZORES
STONE & WEBSTER—*Architects and Builder*

THE WALKER "ALSTEEL" UNDERFLOOR DUCT SYSTEM WITH PRE-SET INSERTS

PATENTED IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND GREAT BRITAIN



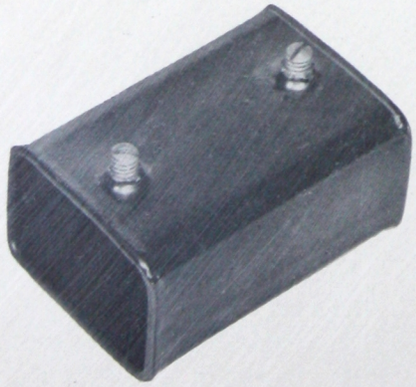
No. 1 No. 2 No. 2
With 1.9" Insert

DUCT

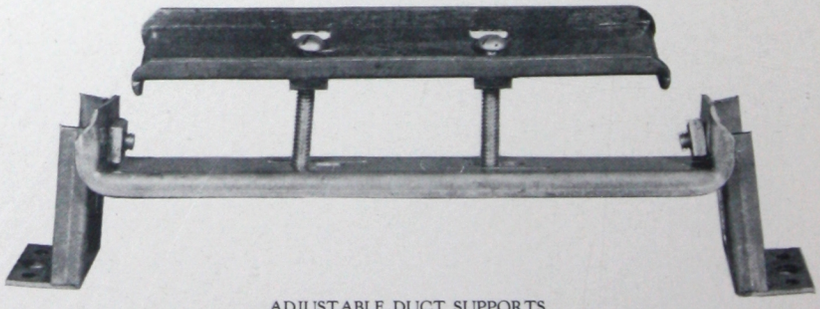
STANADRD SIZES: No. 1—1⅞ x 1¼"
No. 2—3⅛" x 1¼"
Standard finish, baked black enamel. Can be furnished sherardized at slight additional cost.

STANDARD PRE-SET INSERTS: 1⁹⁄₁₆" diameter, 1" high. Special heights from ¾" to 2" available if necessary to meet structurable conditions.

LARGE INSERTS, 1.9" in diameter and threaded, can be furnished to specification in No. 2 duct.

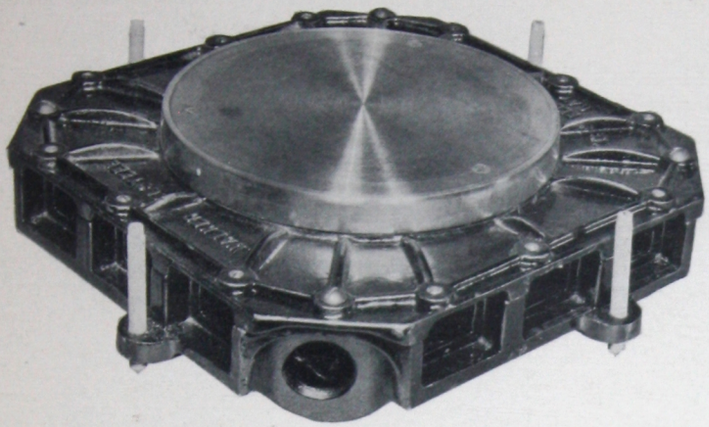


DUCT COUPLING
No. 419 for No. 1 Duct
No. 420 for No. 2 Duct



ADJUSTABLE DUCT SUPPORTS
Available for various combinations of ducts.
Adjustable vertically and laterally.
Leg members in three standard lengths:
No. 1 Adjustable— ¾" to 1¾" to bottom of duct
No. 2 Adjustable—1½" to 3" to bottom of duct
No. 3 Adjustable—1¾" to 4¼" to bottom of duct

JUNCTION AND CROSS-OVER BOXES

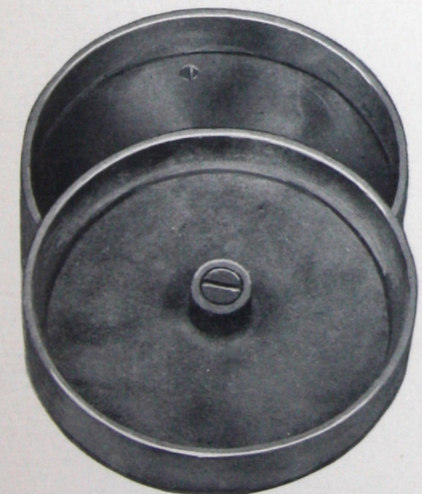


No. 3111C

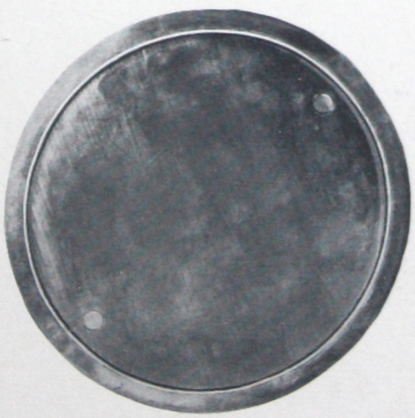


No. 212C

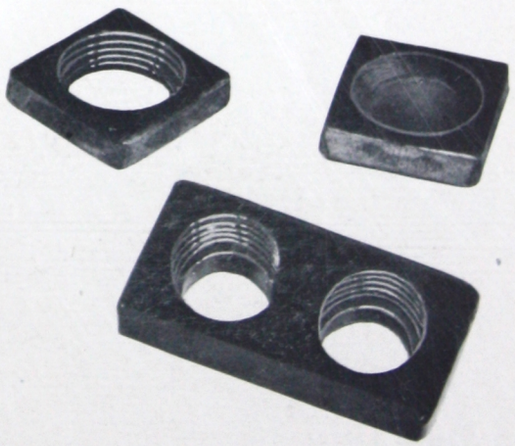
Catalog Number	Number of Ducts	Size of Ducts	Dimension between Duct Ends	Depth	Size of Cover	Conduit Taps	Approx. Shipping Weight
11C	1	1 7/8" x 1 1/4"	5 1/2"	3 3/16"	4"	Up to 1 1/4"	11 lbs.
12	1	3 1/8" x 1 1/4"	5 1/2"	2 9/16"	4"	None	15 "
12C	1	3 1/8" x 1 1/4"	7"	3 3/16"	6"	Up to 1 1/4"	20 "
211C	2	1 7/8" x 1 1/4"	8"	3 3/8"	6"	Up to 1 1/4"	23 "
222C	2	3 1/8" x 1 1/4"	10 1/2"	3 3/8"	7"	Up to 1 1/4"	36 "
212C	1	1 7/8" x 1 1/4"	9"	3 3/8"	7"	Up to 1 1/4"	32 "
	1	3 1/8" x 1 1/4"					
3111C	3	1 7/8" x 1 1/4"	10"	3 3/8"	7"	Up to 1 1/4"	34 "
3212C	1	1 7/8" x 1 1/4"	12 1/2"	3 3/8"	7"	Up to 1 1/4"	42 "
	2	3 1/8" x 1 1/4"					



DEEP COVERS & RINGS
For Floors of Marble, etc.
Order by number of box. Specify exact thickness marble, terazzo, travatine, etc.



LINOLEUM HOLDERS
For Box Covers
Order by number of box. Specify exact thickness linoleum, rubber, etc.



WASHERS
For Blanking Box Openings or Adapting for Conduits

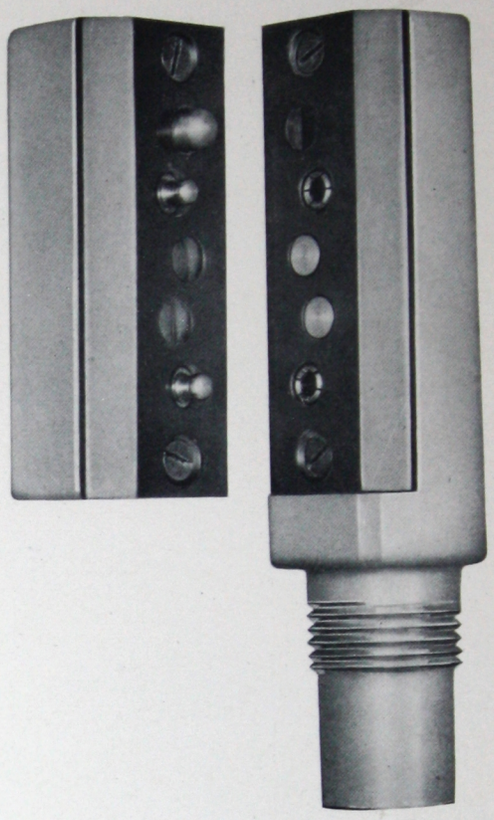
OUTLET FITTINGS



No. 101H
DUPLEX RECEPTACLE



No. 101L
LOW TENSION OR TELEPHONE OUTLET



No. 102
SEPARABLE CONNECTOR
No. 102A2 for independent telephones
No. 102B2 for Bell telephones
No. 102C5—Five-way Connector
No. 102D10—Ten-way Connector



No. 221–1
EXPANSION FLOOR COUPLING
For connecting outlet fittings to pre-set insert



No. 373
ADAPTER
For reducing 1.9" diameter pre-set insert for standard outlet fittings



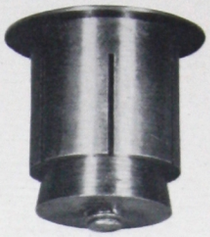
No. 221A
EXPANSION FLOOR COUPLING
With 3" flange for use with 1.9" diameter pre-set insert



No. 221–5

EXPANSION FLOOR COUPLING

With long shank for use where pre-set insert is below marble or wood

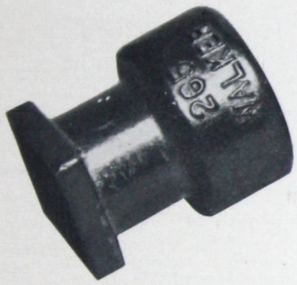


No. 323A

INSERT MARKER

Expansion Type

No. 323–I with 3" flange serves to close abandoned outlets



ADAPTERS

For introducing round conduit into junction boxes. Provided for either duct size and for 1", 1¼" or 1½" conduit. For smaller conduits use washers shown on page 29.

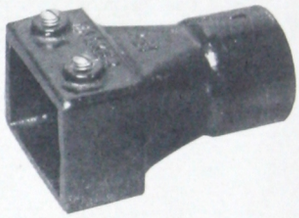


DEAD-END ELBOW

No. 441 for No. 1 Duct

No. 442 for No. 2 Duct

Either ¾" or 1" tapped outlet.



COUPLING

For joining round conduit to end of duct. Furnished for either size duct and for conduit from ½" to 1½"

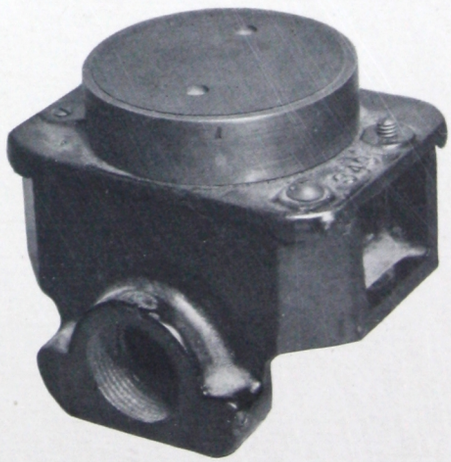


ELBOW BOX AND BUSHING

For Connecting to Wall Panel-Boxes

No. 401 for No. 1 Duct

No. 402 for No. 2 Duct

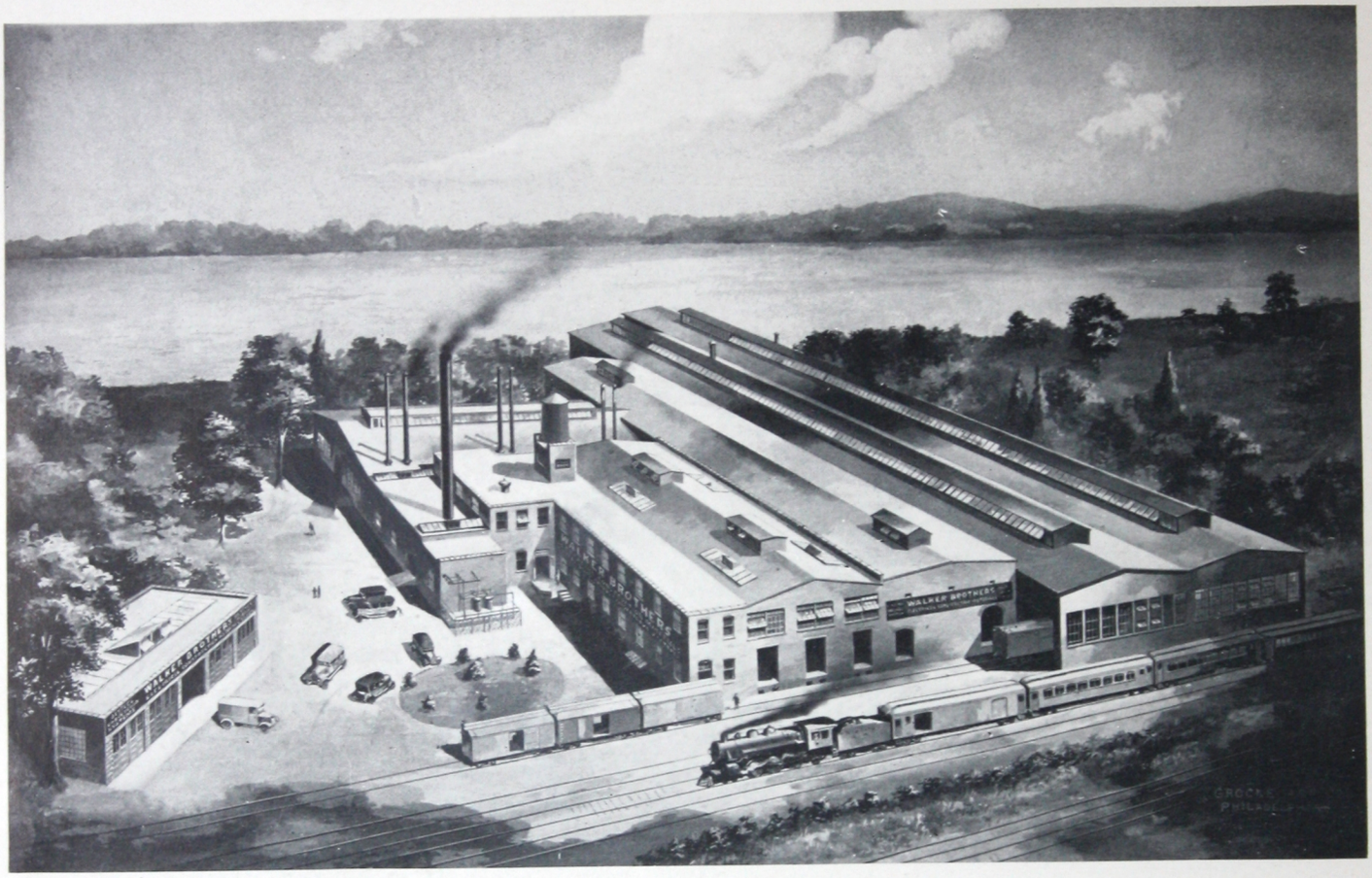


PULL BOX

For joining side runs of round conduit to duct

No. 343 for No. 1 duct

No. 344 for No. 2 duct



WALKER FACTORY AT CONSHOHOCKEN, PA.

Devoted to the Manufacture of Roughing-in Materials of Steel

PLANDOME PRESS, INC.
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